



soundscape

E-NEWSLETTER OF THE OTICON FOUNDATION IN NEW ZEALAND



Welcome to the Oticon Foundation's 2016 e-newsletter, timed to coincide with Deaf Awareness Week (DAW), which runs from Sunday September 25 to Saturday October 1.

Read about this year's DAW theme – captioning – and the work organisations, including the National Foundation for the Deaf, are doing in this regard.

The Oticon Foundation's 2016 grants round saw support for research and education – bringing keynote speakers to conferences in New Zealand and sending audiologists to attend conferences overseas, and we are pleased to report on a number of these projects.

We eagerly await NFD's research into the social and economic impacts of hearing impairment in New Zealand, which will fill gaps in knowledge about hearing loss. At present, New Zealand relies on limited information from the Census and extrapolated data from overseas research.

And we pay tribute to Tim Olphert, one of the founding trustees of the Oticon Foundation in New Zealand, who passed away this year.

Karen Pullar
Secretary to the Trustees

List of grants made in 2016, [read more here ...](#)

Information about the Foundation www.oticon.org.nz



Deaf Awareness Week – focus on captioning

Less than a quarter of new programmes on New Zealand television are captioned, and captioning is now the focus of this year's Deaf Awareness Week.

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Tim Olphert gave away money – about \$4 million of it

As chairman of the Oticon Foundation in New Zealand for 38 years, he and his fellow trustees supported the New Zealand hearing disability sector and the people working in it – professionals, organisations, individuals and institutions.

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Understanding the present and sharing the future: Educators of the deaf gather to share knowledge

Children with hearing loss in just one ear are facing special challenges in their schooling, researchers have found.

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Professor Kevin Munroe at the NZAS conference

Social isolation, fatigue and depression can all be by-products of hearing loss, which well-tailored hearing solutions can address, says English researcher Kevin Munro.

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Listen Hear! New Zealand

The hard of hearing sector will get an early Christmas present when a “state of the nation” report on hearing loss in New Zealand is completed.

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Canterbury Uni Te Pihareinga update

Canterbury University researchers are about to start a decisive phase of their work on a monitoring system that can help save a patient’s hearing during delicate ear surgery.

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Lucy and Kaushi go camping in Denmark

Hearing aids that use your brain waves to decide what to focus on, particularly in noisy environments, are on the horizon. And so is remote audiology where people who can’t easily get to their audiologist can have their hearing devices adjusted via a computer link. Auckland audiologists **Lucy Whitehead** and **Kaushi Ambepitiya** discovered both when they attended the Eriksholm Summer Camp in Denmark, courtesy of the Oticon Foundation.

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Strong field of candidates for university audiology prize

The University of Auckland is waiting for overseas markers to finish with four more theses before deciding who will win the 2016 Oticon Foundation Audiology Prize.

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The Oticon Foundation of New Zealand was established in October 1976. Income generated from the Foundation’s investments is distributed to groups and organisations seeking financial support for projects that benefit the hearing impaired.

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